



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORTLAND DISTRICT**  
**U S MOORINGS**  
**8010 NW ST HELENS ROAD**  
**PORTLAND OR 97210-3699**

Plant Maintenance Section

December 9, 2013

Ms. Laura Johnson  
City of Portland  
Environmental Services  
Industrial Stormwater Section  
6543 N Burlington Avenue, Bldg 217  
Portland, Oregon 97203

Ms. Johnson:

You performed a Stormwater site inspection of the US Army Corps of Engineers, US Moorings facility on October 3, 2013. We received your letter dated October 7, 2013 regarding the inspection follow-up that includes a Pre-Enforcement Referral and several Notices of Non-Compliance. Additionally, we also received 3 letters dated October 15, 2013; one addressing a second Pre-Enforcement Referral, one regarding a Notice of Non-Compliance for sampling deficiencies and one Notice of Non-Compliance regarding reporting deficiencies.

Listed below is a brief description of each finding and the corrective actions taken.

Violations found during the October 3, 2013 inspection for NPDES 1200Z Permit; File # 108394 and included in the **October 7, 2013 letter**. (Letter referenced incorrect DEQ Permit # 121302)

**Pre-Enforcement Referral: Facility Inspection Requirements, Schedule B.7.a.i.7:  
Visual inspection of the stormwater outfalls were not made during a rain event.**

Response #1 There was no sufficient rain event in September 2013 that occurred during regular business hours that resulted in a visual discharge so we were unable to complete a visual outfall inspection.

There is a single, 3 page inspection form in our Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) that covers both the monthly facility inspection and the monthly rain event inspection. This form is confusing and contributed to the oversight of not visually inspecting our 2 permitted outfalls during a rain event. We have incorporated revised, individual inspection reports into our SWPCP that will document a monthly inspection of the facility operations and associated Best Management Practices (BMPs) and a separate monthly inspection form to document the visual quality of our discharges (if flowing) during a rain event. If no flow is evident we will document that on the new inspection form. We began using the new forms in November 2013.

**Notice of Non-Compliance: Narrative Technology Based Effluent Limits, Schedule A.1:  
Minimize exposure of the fixed fueling activities to stormwater.**

Response #2: A local plumbing contractor has been contacted to install emergency shutoff valves on our discharge lines of our oil water separators that will allow us to temporarily isolate our stormwater system outfalls from discharging as recommended by the City in their August 22, 2012 correspondence. We anticipate the valve installation to be completed by February 1, 2014. We will continue to minimize any exposure of fuel to the stormwater system by using a manually operated fuel pump mounted on the covered, double walled tank. Absorbents are used to cover the area between the dispenser and equipment while fueling operations are occurring.

**Notice of Non-Compliance: Implementation of SWPCP, Schedule A.6:  
The SWPCP states "Clean Way stormwater catch basin filters were installed in Catch Basin B2 and B4 through B8....". B7 and B8 did not have the specialized filter.**

Response #3: The catch basins B7 and B8 have Clean Way sediment filters installed but are lacking the Clean Way MetalZorb filters as our plan indicates. The irregular configuration of these catch basins requires a modified design and custom fit. A Clean Way vendor has been contacted and we have an anticipated date of December 16, 2013 for the installation of custom Clean Way MetalZorb filters in catch basin B7 and B8.

**Notice of Non-Compliance: Implementation of SWPCP, Schedule A.6 (continued):  
Excessive sediment was observed in drainage area A**

Response #4: The sediments were swept up and properly disposed as soon as crews were available that afternoon. The area was previously inaccessible for sweeping due to large parts stored in the area that had been recently moved. Whenever parts are moved and sediments are observed the area will be swept immediately.

**Notice of Non-Compliance: Update of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, Schedule A.7: Update Plan to reflect contact information, changes to management practices or changes to impervious areas.**

Response #5: Updates of Points of Contact regarding our Stormwater Plan have been provided to the City of Portland. Updates to the SWPCP contacts include Chris Harper as Facility Manager and Art Leskowich as Environmental Protection Specialist. This page is attached and is being submitted as requested. No other significant changes to the plan or management practices require an update at this time.

**Unauthorized Non-stormwater discharge, Schedule A.7:  
Water used to pressure test equipment seals is being discharged to the ground.**

Response #6: The occasional small amounts of potable water used to pressure test valve seals will be contained and discharged only to sanitary sewer.

Violations cited in the **October 15, 2013** letter regarding the Pre-Enforcement Referral and Monitoring Requirements.

**Failure to meet Monitoring Requirements - Schedule B and Schedule E:**  
**Monitoring for pollutants did not meet permit requirements. 4 sampling events are required annually (from July 1, 2012 through June, 30 2013). Only 3 sample events occurred. Iron was not sampled during one of the sample events.**

Response #7: This was the initial sampling period under the new 5 year permit cycle and our facility had undergone several personnel changes. Iron was not a parameter that had previously been required for analysis. A misinterpretation of the date requirements resulted in missing one of the two required sample events on or before December 31. We have clarified and understand the time frame and sampling requirements and will meet the criteria as the permit requires.

Violations cited in the **October 15, 2013** letter regarding Notice of Non-Compliance for Sampling Procedures.

**Notice of Non-Compliance-Failure to meet Sampling Procedure Requirements – Schedule B.2: Detection limits for constituents (8 PAH's) and hold times for pH were not met as required.**

Response #8: The laboratory used for the initial (December 2012) sample event was unable to meet the required detection limits required for the analysis. Concentration limit for Pentachlorophenol is 20 ppb; the Method Reporting Limit attained was 26ppb. The seven other Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) constituents having a Concentration limit of 1.0 ppb were only able to attain a Method Reporting Limit of 11 ppb. Subsequent samples taken in April and May 2013 were analyzed by another lab able to meet the required detection limits. All PAH samples from April/May 2013 were Not Detected or below Concentration limits.

During the sample event of December 2012 the pH was recorded by the laboratory and did not meet the holding time limit of 15 minutes. Future sampling events in April and May 2013 had the pH taken in the field when the sample was obtained. This procedure has been incorporated into the sample collection protocol.

Violations cited in the **October 15, 2013** letter regarding Reporting Requirements- Schedule A.10.a

**Notice of Non-Compliance - Failure to meet Tier 1 Corrective Action Reporting Requirements – Schedule A.10.a: The Tier 1 report was not submitted in 30 days of obtaining the monitoring results.**

Response #9: The analytical report dated January 11, 2013 was received by the Corps via e-mail on January 15, 2013. After a meeting with the City on February 27, 2013 to

discuss the results a Tier 1 report was submitted the following day, February 28, 2013; 44 days after receipt of the monitoring results. Future benchmark exceedances that require a Tier 1 report will be submitted in a timely manner, within 30 days of receipt of the results.

**Notice of Non-Compliance - Failure to meet Tier 1 Corrective Action Reporting Requirements (continued) – Schedule A.10.a.iii: The Tier 1 report did not contain the minimum requirements of results of the investigation, corrective actions completed with timeframes for specific actions.**

Response #10: The Tier 1 response dated August 14, 2013 was submitted regarding the exceedances of Copper and Zinc from both outfalls in the May, 2013 samples. An investigation of the facility and stormwater systems did not indicate any significant changes to operations or infrastructure that would have negatively affected the quality of our stormwater discharge. It was expected that upgrades installed during the previous 8 months (Clean Way Metal Zorb catch basin inserts and downspout filters) and Best Management Practices (additional sweeping, gutter repair, and the cleaning of our roofs and stormwater system) should have improved the quality of our discharge. It may have been possible that the cleaning mobilized some metals but all residue was pumped into trucks and shipped offsite for proper disposal. It may be possible that the irrigation system for our landscaped areas have contributed to the increase in metals (especially copper) in our discharge. Until additional rain events occur it was not practicable to test the effectiveness of the Clean Way Metal Zorb filters. Additional testing of the filters influent and effluent, down spouts and sheet flow will occur when the rainy season returns. No additional changes to the SWPCP are considered necessary at this time.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or any of the corrective actions taken, please contact Art Leskowich, Environmental Compliance Coordinator, at (504) 808-5407 or [arthur.f.leskowich@usace.army.mil](mailto:arthur.f.leskowich@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Harper", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chris Harper  
Operations Project Manager